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U1S 1308 C2C

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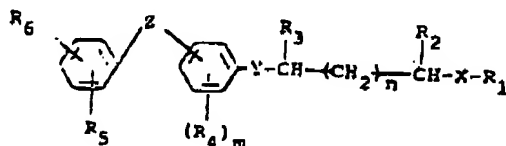
None

(58) Field of search

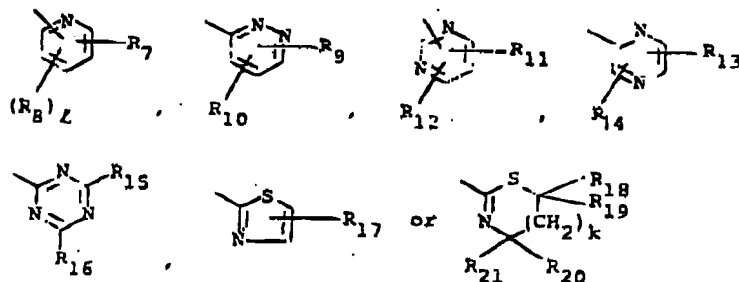
C2C

(54) Nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds, and their production and use

(57) A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound of the formula:



wherein

R₁ is either one of the following groups:

(in which R₇, R₈, R₉, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₄, R₁₅, R₁₆ and R₁₇ are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄ alkyl group, a C₁-C₄ alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄ alkylthio group, a trifluoromethyl group or a nitro group, R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀ and R₂₁ are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, k is 0 or 1 and ℓ is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3);
R₂ and R₃ are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a methyl group;
R₄ is a halogen atom or a methyl group;
R₅ and R₆ are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄ alkyl group, a C₁-C₄ alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄ haloalkyl group or a C₁-C₄ haloalkoxy group;
X, Y and Z are each independently an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a methylene group;
m is 0 or an integer of 1 to 4; and
n is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2,
which is useful as an insecticidal agent.

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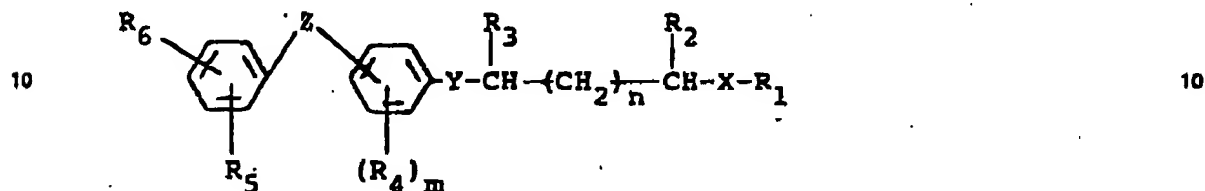
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SPECIFICATION

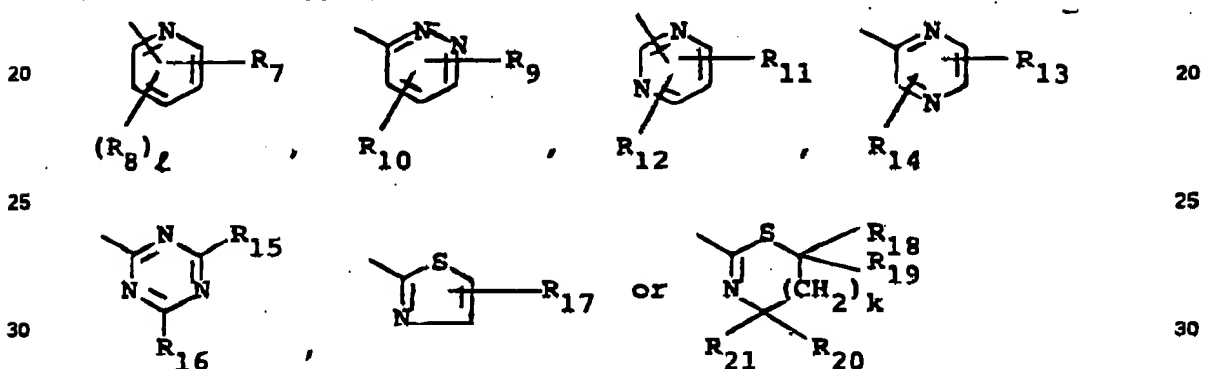
Nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds, and their production and use

5 The present invention relates to nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds, and their production and use. 5

The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds of the invention are represented by the formula:



15 wherein 15
R₁ is one of the following groups:



(In which R₇, R₈, R₉, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₂, R₁₃, R₁₄, R₁₅, R₁₆ and R₁₇ are, each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄ alkyl group, a C₁-C₄ alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄ alkylthio group, a trifluoromethyl group or a nitro group, R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀ and R₂₁ are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group, k is 0 or 1 and l is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3); 35

R₂ and R₃ are, each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R₄ is a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R₅ and R₆ are, each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C₁-C₄ alkyl group, a C₁-C₄ alkoxy group, a C₁-C₄ haloalkyl group or a C₁-C₄ haloalkoxy group; 40

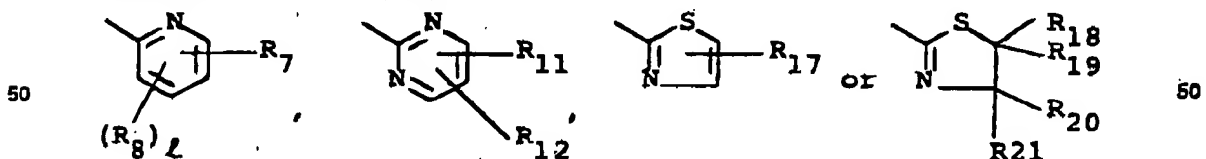
X, Y and Z are each independently an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a methylene group;

m is 0 or an integer of 1 to 4; and

n is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2.

By the term "halogen" as used herein is meant chlorine, bromine, iodine or fluorine.

45 The preferred nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds of formula (I) are those wherein 45
R₁ is either one of the following groups:



55 (in which R₇, R₈, R₁₁, R₁₂ and R₁₇ are each a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom, R₁₈, R₁₉, R₂₀ and R₂₁ are each a 55
hydrogen atom and l is as defined above;

R₂ and R₃ are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R₅ and R₆ are, each independently a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom;

X is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

60 Y is an oxygen atom; 60

Z is an oxygen atom or a methylene group; and

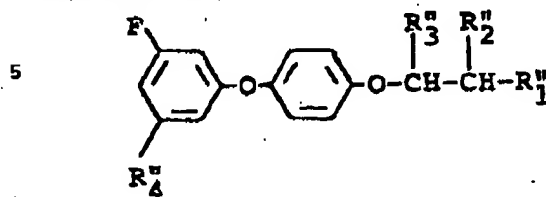
m and n are each 0.

The intermediates in the production of the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) are also

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Included within the scope of this invention. Among a variety of intermediates, those of the following formula are particularly important:



wherein R_1 is a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a tosyloxy group or a mesyloxy group, R_2 and R_3 are, each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R_4 is a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom.

Organophosphorus insecticides, organochlorinated insecticides, and carbamate insecticide have made a great contribution to prevention and extermination of harmful insects. Some of these insecticides, however, exhibit a high toxicity. Furthermore, their residual effect sometimes causes an unfavourable abnormality in the ecosystem of insects. Furthermore, a resistance to the insecticides is noticed in house flies, planthoppers, leafhoppers and rice borers.

In order to overcome these problems, an extensive study was carried out to provide an excellent insecticide which shows at a low concentration a high preventive effect attributable to a juvenile hormone-like activity; as a result, it has now been found that the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) of the invention are useful for the control of insects in agricultural fields, forest lands, granaries, stored products, sanitary facilities, etc.

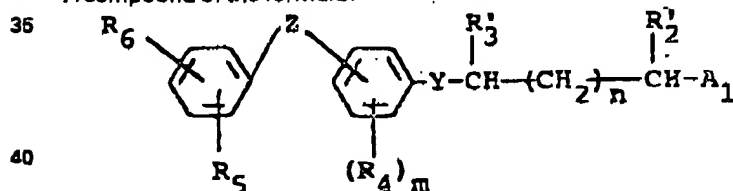
A known insecticide having a juvenile hormone-like activity, is known "methoprene" (U.S. patents 3,904,662 and 3,812,816). The insecticidal activity of this known substance is still not satisfactory.

The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) of the invention show a juvenile hormone-like controlling effect and therefore can be used at a low concentration for the control of a variety of insects belonging to Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Hemiptera, Dictyoptera, Diptera, etc. as well as spider mites (*Teranychidae*) belonging to Acarina in agricultural fields, forest lands, granaries, stored products and sanitary facilities.

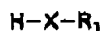
The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) can be prepared by various procedures, of which typical examples are shown below.

Procedure A

A compound of the formula:



wherein R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , Y , Z , m and n are each as defined above, R_2 and R_3 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and A_1 is a halogen atom, a mesyloxy group or a tosyloxy group is reacted with a compound of the formula:



(III)

wherein R_1 and X are each as defined above, or an alkali metal salt thereof to give the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I).

The reaction is usually carried out in the absence or presence of an inert solvent (e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, dimethoxyethane or toluene) in the presence of an acid accepting agent such as an alkali metal, an alkali metal hydride, an alkali metal amide, an alkali metal hydroxide, an alkali metal carbonate, an alkyl lithium or an organic base at a temperature of -70°C to the boiling temperature of the reaction mixture, preferably from room temperature to 110°C , for a period of 0.5 to 24 hours. In order to accelerate the reaction, a phase transfer catalyst such as benzytriethylammonium chloride or tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide may be employed. In this case, water may be used as the solvent.

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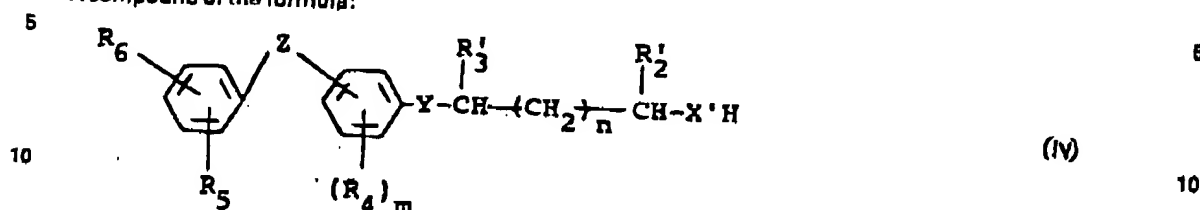
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The molar ratio of the compound (II) to the compound (III) is normally 1 : 1 - 10, preferably 1 : 1.1 - 1.5.

Procedure B

A compound of the formula:



wherein $R'_1, R'_2, R'_3, R_4, R_5, R_6, Y, Z, m$ and n are each as defined above and X' is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom, or an alkali metal salt, thereof is reacted with a compound of the formula:



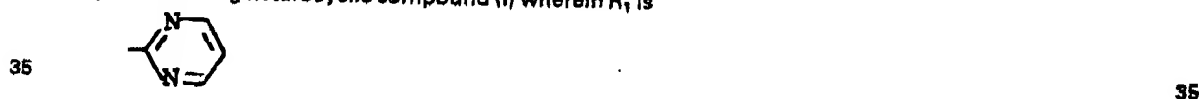
wherein R_1 is as defined above and A_2 is a halogen atom to give the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I).

20 The reaction is usually carried out in the absence or presence of an inert solvent (e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylsulfoxide, tetrahydrofuran, dimethoxyethane, or toluene) in the presence of an acid accepting agent such as an alkali metal, an alkali metal hydride, an alkali metal amide, an alkali metal hydroxide, an alkali metal carbonate, an alkyl lithium or an organic base at a temperature of -30°C to the boiling temperature of the reaction mixture, preferably from room temperature to 110°C , for a period of 0.5 to 24 hours. In order to 25 accelerate the reaction, a phase transfer catalyst such as benzyltriethylammonium chloride or tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide may be employed. In this case, water may be used as the solvent.

The molar ratio of the compound (IV) to the compound (V) is normally 1 : 0.5 - 10, preferably 1 : 0.8 - 5.0.

Procedure C

30 The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) wherein R_2 or R_3 is a halogen atom can be prepared by reacting the corresponding non-halogenated compounds with a halogenating agent. For example, the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I) wherein R_1 is



R_2 is chlorine, R_3, R_5 and R_6 are each hydrogen, X is sulfur, Y and Z are each oxygen and m and n are each 0, may be prepared by reacting a non-halogenated compound of the formula:



with an N-halosuccinimide of the formula:



The above reaction may be carried out in an inert solvent (e.g. carbon tetrachloride, 1,2-dichloroethane or methylene chloride). If desired, a radical initiator such as α, α -azobisisobutyronitrile or benzoyl peroxide may be present in the reaction system so as to effect the reaction smoothly. No particular limitation is present on 55 the reaction temperature but, in general, it may be performed at a temperature of 0°C to the boiling temperature of the reaction mixture. The reaction is usually complete within a period of 1 to 50 hours. The halogenating agent such as N-halosuccinimide is preferably used in an amount equimolar or greater to the non-halogenated compound.

In the above procedures, the recovery of the so-produced nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I) 60 from the reaction mixture and the purification of the recovered nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I) may be carried out by *per se* conventional procedures. For example, the purification may be achieved by recrystallization or chromatography.

The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I) has optical isomers with respect to the groups R_2 and R_3 , all of which are included within the scope of the invention. Further, the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic 65 compounds (I) have a lone pair of electrons on the nitrogen atom so that some of them can form salts with

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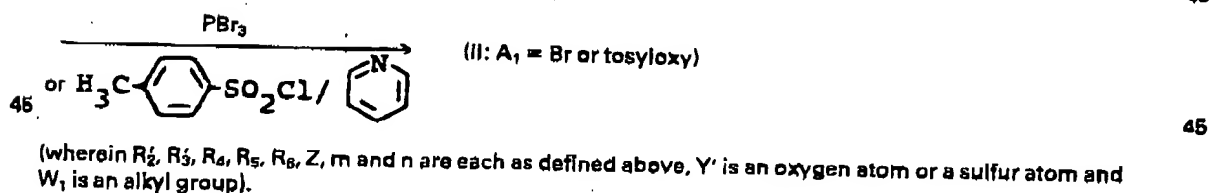
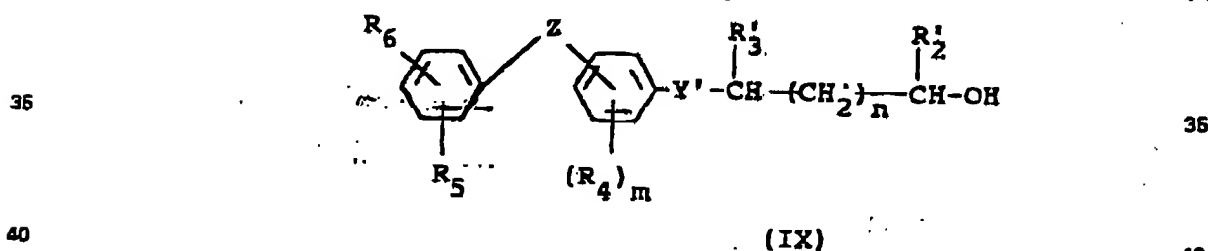
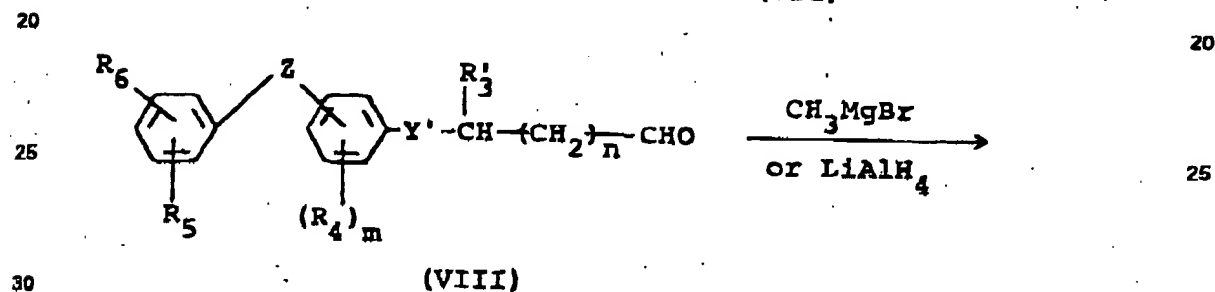
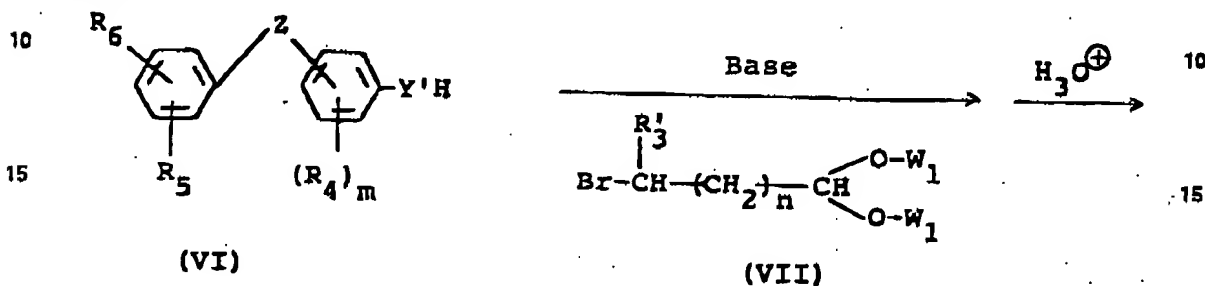
acids, and those salts are also included within the scope of the invention. Examples of the acid are inorganic acids (e.g. hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid and sulfuric acid) and organic acids (e.g. trifluoroacetic acid and trichloroacetic acid).

The compound (II) as one of the starting materials may be produced by *per se* conventional procedures, of which typical examples are shown in the following schema:

When Y is oxygen or sulfur:-

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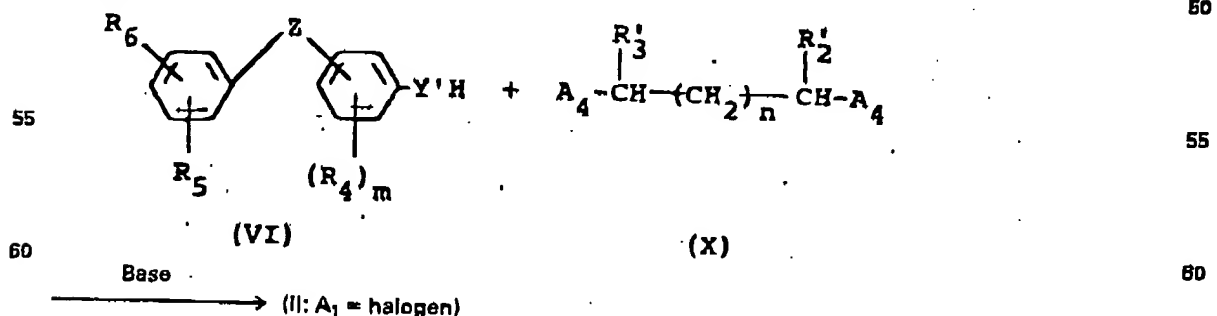
Procedure (1)



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50 Procedure (2)

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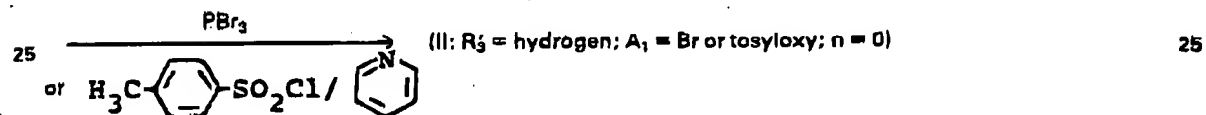
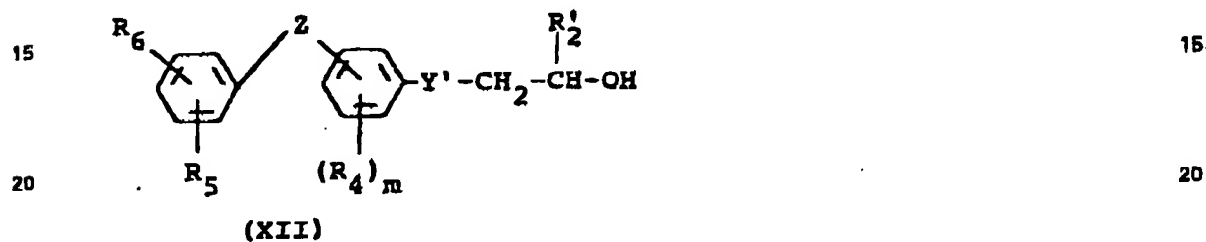
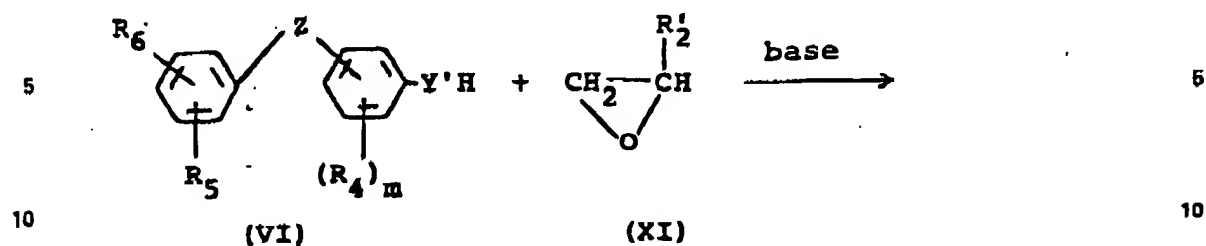
(wherein R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, Y', Z, m and n are each as defined above and A₄ is a halogen atom).

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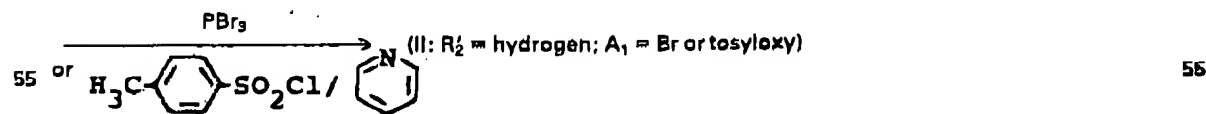
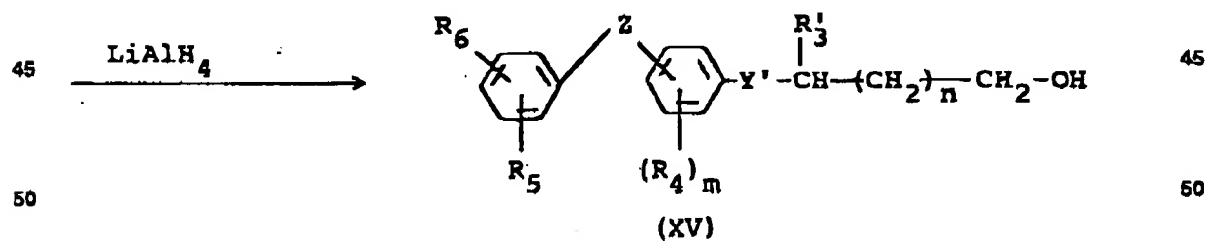
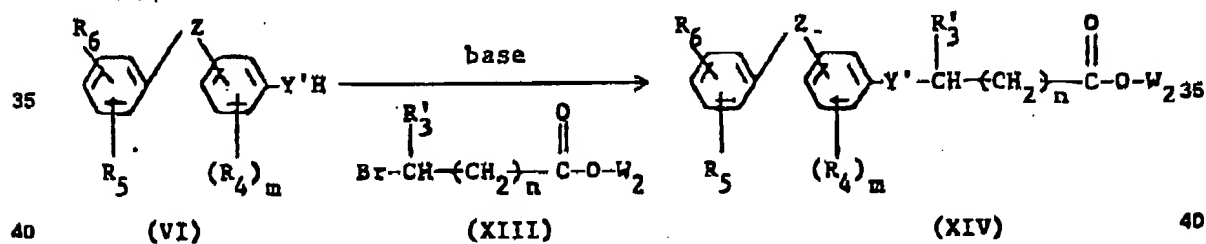
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Procedure (3)



(wherein R_2 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , Y' , Z and m is as defined above).

Procedure (4)



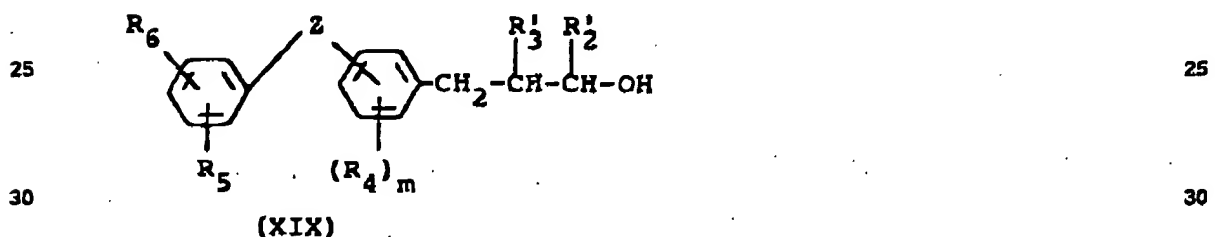
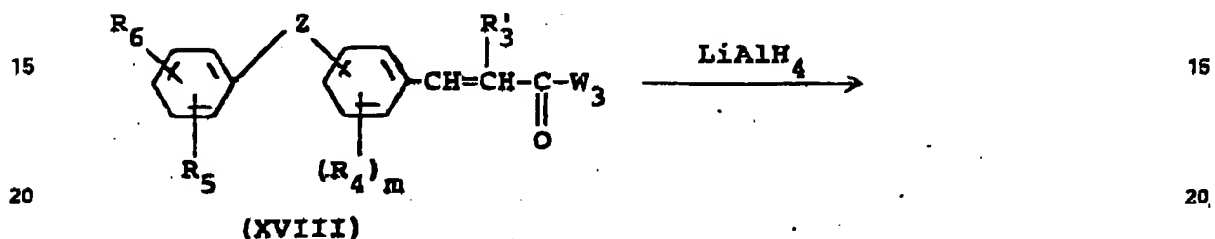
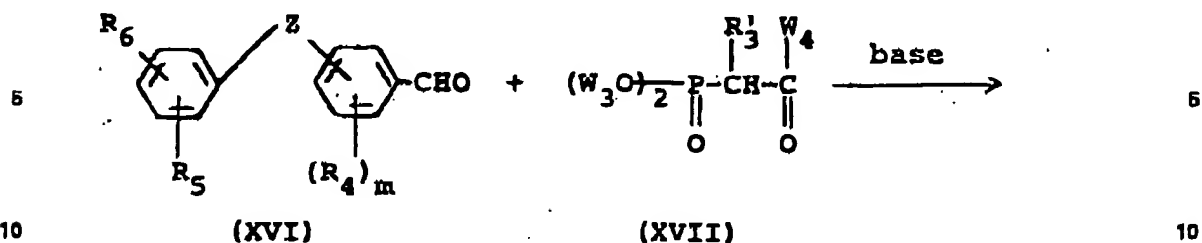
(wherein R_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , Y' , Z , m and n are each as defined above and W_2 is an alkyl group).

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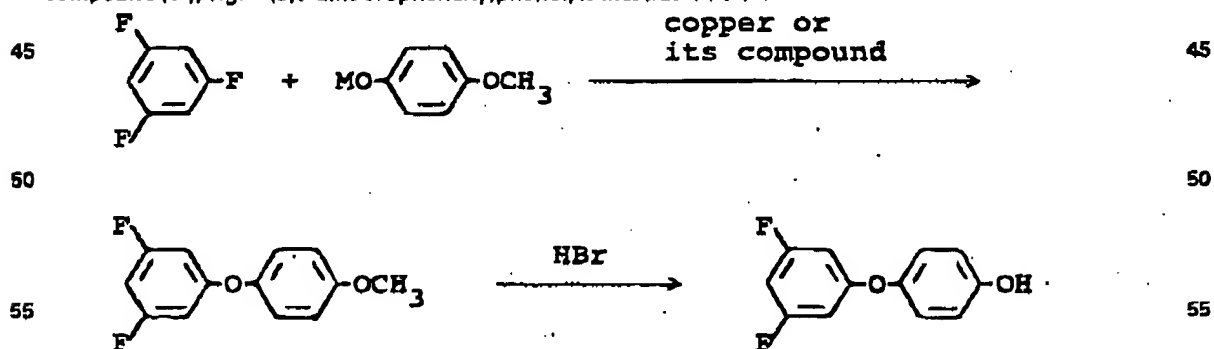
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When Y is methylene and n is zero:-



(wherein R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, Z and m are each as defined above, W₃ is an alkyl group and W₄ is a methyl group or an alkoxy group).

The compound (VI) is known or can be prepared by per se conventional procedures (cf. Angew.Chem., 52, 915 (1938); Japanese Patent Publ. (unexamined) No. 62033/1980). A typical example for producing the compound (VI), e.g. 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenol, is illustrated below.



(wherein M is an alkali metal atom).

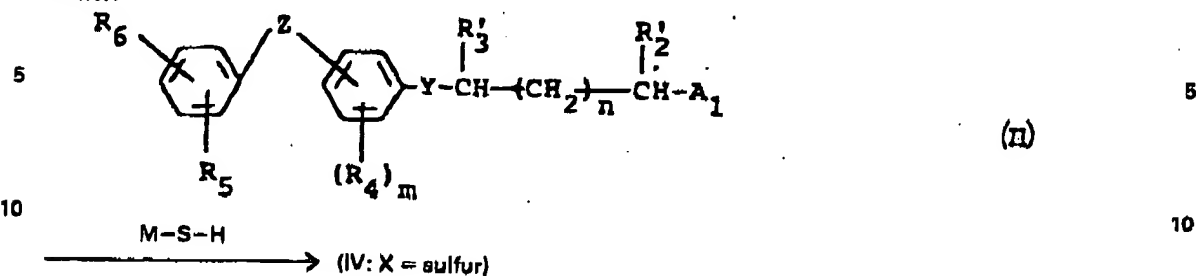
The compound (IV) wherein X is an oxygen atom may be obtained in the same manner as the preparation

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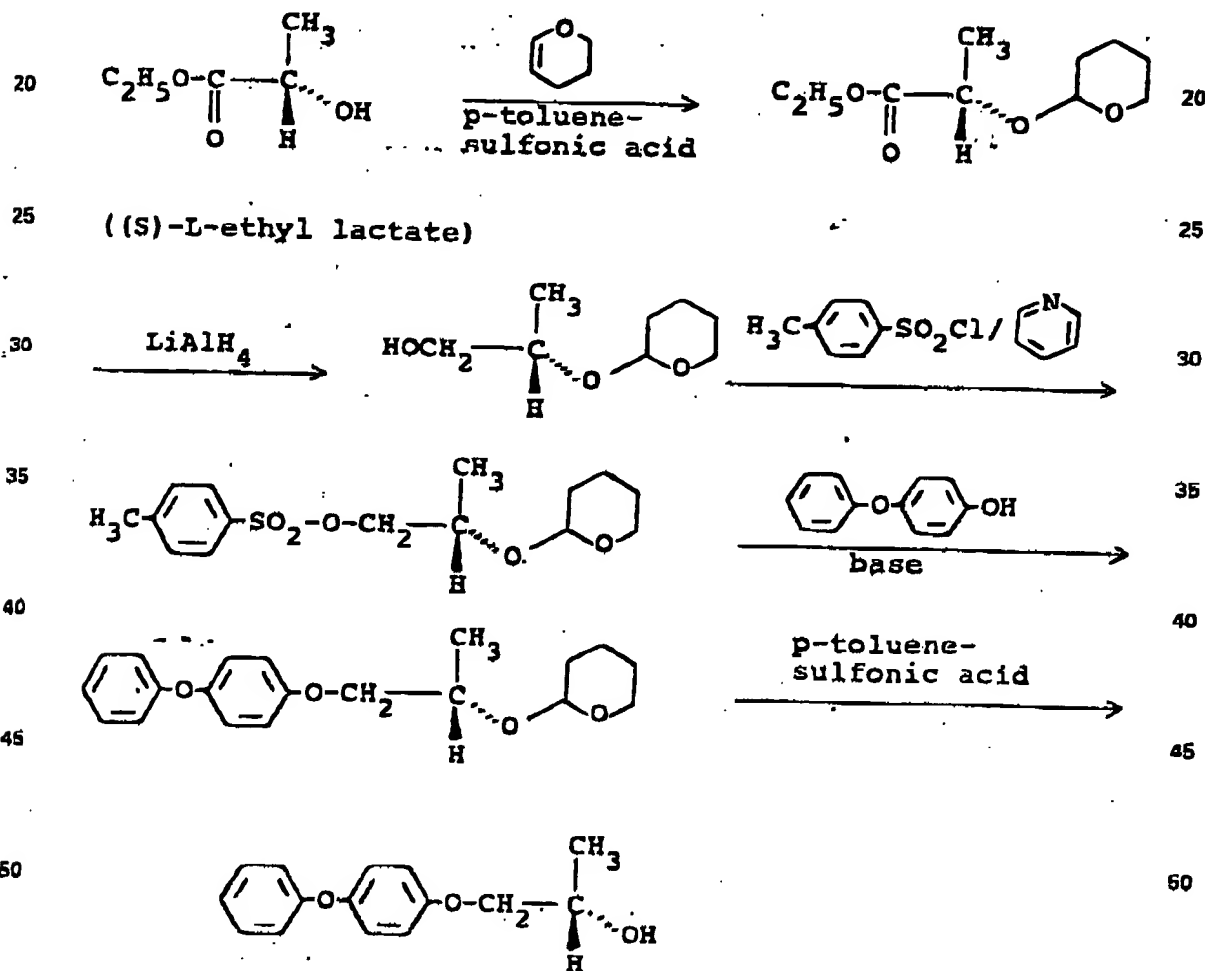
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of the compound (II). The compound (IV) wherein X is a sulfur atom may be produced in the following manner:



(wherein R₂, R₃, R₄, R₅, R₆, Y, Z, A₁, m and n are each as defined above and M is an alkali metal atom).

15 One of the optically active intermediate compounds of the invention, i.e. (S)-(+)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol, may be obtained in the following manner:



55 Likewise, (R)-(-)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol is prepared from (R)-D-ethyl lactate. The (R)-(-)- or (S)-(+)-isomer of 1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol can be converted into its

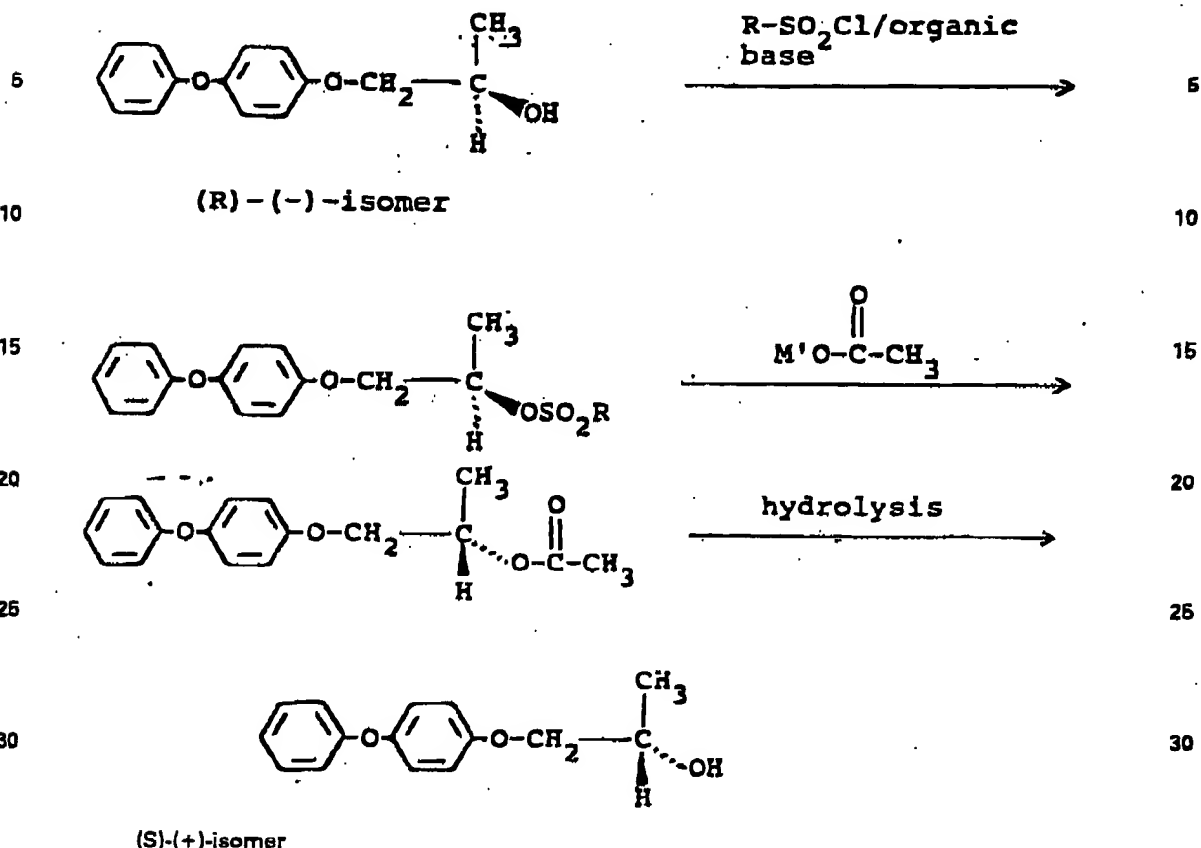
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corresponding another stereo-isomer according to the following steps:



wherein R is a p-tolyl group or a methyl group and M' is a sodium atom or a potassium atom.

Practical and presently preferred embodiments for preparation of the compound (I) are illustratively shown in the following Examples.

Example 1

Preparation of Compound No. 1 (Procedure A):-

To a suspension of sodium hydride (132 mg, 3.3 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (5 ml), a solution of 2-hydroxypyridine (314 mg, 3.3 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 ml) was dropwise added with stirring, and stirring was continued at room temperature until the generation of hydrogen gas ceased. To the resultant solution, there was dropwise added a solution of 2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl bromide (879 mg, 3.0 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 ml), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (70 ml) and extracted with toluene (25 ml) three times. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed by evaporation. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-ethoxy]pyridine (284 mg) as white crystals. M.P., 94.2°C.

Example 2

Preparation of Compound No. 3 (Procedure B):-

To a suspension of sodium hydride (200 mg, 5.0 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (5 ml), a solution of 1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (1.22 g, 5.0 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 ml) was dropwise added with stirring, and the mixture was kept at an inner temperature of 50 to 60°C until the generation of hydrogen gas ceased. 2-Chloropyridine (684 mg, 6.0 mmol) was dropwise added thereto, followed by stirring at 100 to 110°C for 5 hours. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, poured into water (100 ml) and extracted with toluene (40 ml) three times. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed by evaporation. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]pyridine (1.27 g) as pale yellow liquid, $n_D^{20.5}$ 1.5823. Upon being allowed to stand for a few days, the liquid solidified to give crystals. M.P., 48.7°C.

Example 3

Preparation of Compound No. 12 (Procedure B):-

To a suspension of sodium hydride (20 mg, 0.5 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (1 ml), a solution of 1-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (140 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dimethylformamide (1 ml) was dropwise added with stirring, and stirring was continued at room temperature until the generation of hydrogen gas ceased. 2-Fluoropyridine (97 mg, 1.0 mmol) was dropwise added thereto, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (40 ml) and extracted with toluene (20 ml) three times. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed by evaporation. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[1-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethoxy]pyridine (129 mg) as pale yellow liquid. n_D^{20} 1.5602.

10 Example 4

Preparation of Compound No. 49 (Procedure A):-

To a suspension of sodium hydride (160 mg, 4.0 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (5 ml), a solution of 2-mercapto-2-thiazoline (478 mg, 4.0 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 ml) was dropwise added with stirring, and stirring was continued until the generation of hydrogen gas ceased. To the resultant solution, there was dropwise added a solution of 2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl bromide (1.17 g, 4.0 mmol) in dimethylformamide (3 ml), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was poured into water (80 ml) and extracted with toluene (40 ml) three times. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed by evaporation. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethylthio]-2-thiazoline (887 mg) as pale yellow crystals. M.P., 88.6°C.

Example 5

Preparation of Compound No. 20 (Procedure B):-

(1) (S)-L-Ethyl lactate tetrahydropyranyl ether L-Ethyl lactate (4.0 g, 34 mmol) and dihydropyran (3.7 g, 44 mmol) were dissolved in dry diethyl ether (20 ml). To the resultant mixture, a solution of p-toluene-sulfonic acid (50 mg) in dry ether (2 ml) was dropwise added at an inner temperature of 0°C, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 2 hours and at 20°C for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into an ice-cooled 5 % aqueous potassium carbonate solution and shaken. The ether layer was separated, washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of ether gave almost pure (S)-L-ethyl lactate tetrahydropyranyl ether (6.6 g) as pale yellow liquid. n_D^{20} 1.4396, $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -54.3^\circ$ (CHCl₃, c = 0.56).

(2) (S)-2-(Tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-propanol

To a solution of lithiumaluminum hydride (1.5 g, 40 mmol) in dry ether (50 ml), (S)-L-ethyl lactate tetrahydropyranyl ether obtained in (1) (6.6 g, 33 mmol) was dropwise added at an inner temperature of 0 to 10°C, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 1 hour and at 20°C for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was then poured into an ice-cooled aqueous ammonium chloride solution and extracted with ether. The ether layer was washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of ether gave (S)-2-(tetrahydropyranyloxy)propanol (4.2 g) as pale yellow liquid. n_D^{25} 1.4552, $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -5.3^\circ$ (CHCl₃, c = 0.51). IR (film): 3400, 2930, 1080, 1020 (strong).

(3) (S)-2-(Tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-propyl p-toluenesulfonate

p-Toluenesulfonyl chloride (5.6 g, 30 mmol) was added to a solution of (S)-2-(tetrahydropyranyloxy)propanol as obtained in (2) (4.2 g, 28 mmol) in pyridine (7 g) at a temperature of 0 to 5°C, and the resultant mixture was allowed to stand at 0°C for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with water five times and then with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave (S)-2-(tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-propyl p-toluenesulfonate (6.8 g) as pale yellow liquid. ¹H-NMR spectrum δ (CDCl₃, TMS): 1.13 (3H, m), 1.3 - 1.8 (6H), 2.39 (3H, s), 3.2 - 4.2 (5H), 4.62 (1H, broad m), 7.0 - 8.0 (4H).

(4) (S)-1-Methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol

To a suspension of sodium hydride (0.84 g, 21 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (20 ml), 4-phenoxyphenol (4.20 g, 23 mmol) was gradually added under ice-cooling, and the mixture was stirred at 20°C for 1 hour. (S)-2-(Tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-propyl p-toluenesulfonate as obtained in (3) (6.39 g, 20 mmol) was added thereto, and the resultant mixture was stirred at an inner temperature of 70°C for 7 hours. The reaction mixture was then poured into ice-water and extracted with ether twice. The ether layer was washed with a 3 % aqueous sodium hydroxide solution so as to eliminate unreacted 4-phenoxyphenol. The ether layer was washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, methanol (50 ml) and p-toluenesulfonic acid (50 mg) were added to the residue, followed by stirring at 20°C for 1 hour. The reaction mixture was poured into an aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and extracted with ethyl acetate twice. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give (S)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (2.30 g) as white crystals. M.P., 73.6°C. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +18.5^\circ$ (CHCl₃, c = 1.0).

(5) (S)-2-[1-Methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]-pyridine

To a suspension of sodium hydride (80 mg, 2.0 mmol; 60 % in oil) in dimethylformamide (5 ml), (S)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol as obtained in (4) (500 mg, 2.0 mmol) was added at an inner

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temperature of 0°C, and the resultant mixture was stirred at 0°C for 30 minutes and at 20°C for 1 hour. 2-Fluoropyridine (280 mg, 2.9 mmol) was added thereto, and stirring was continued at 20°C for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with ethyl acetate twice. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give (S)-2-[1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-ethoxy]pyridine (370 mg) as pale yellow liquid. $n_D^{25.0}$ 1.5828. $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -33.8^\circ$ (CHCl₃, c = 0.34).

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Example 6**10 Preparation of Compound No. 118 (Procedure A):-**

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To a solution of α -picoline (1.0 g, 11 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (20 ml), *n*-butyl lithium (8 ml, 11 mmol; 1.4 mmol/ml) was added at -50°C under nitrogen stream until the reaction mixture turned red. After stirring at -50°C for 30 minutes, 2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl bromide (3.0 g, 10 mmol) was dropwise added thereto at -50°C, and stirring was continued at the same temperature for 2 hours and at 20°C for 12 hours. The reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate layer was washed with an aqueous sodium chloride solution and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[3-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-propyl]pyridine (1.8 g) as pale yellow oil. $n_D^{25.6}$ 1.5861.

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20 Example 7**Preparation of Compound No. 111 (Procedure C):-**

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To a solution of 2-[2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethylthio]pyrimidine (324 mg, 1.0 mmol) in carbon tetrachloride (3 ml), there was added *N*-chlorosuccinimide (180 mg, 1.2 mmol) with stirring under ice-cooling. The reaction system was gradually elevated to room temperature, and stirring was continued overnight. The precipitate was separated by filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated. Re-crystallization of the residue from cyclohexane gave 2-[1-chloro-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethylthio]pyrimidine (268 mg) as pale yellow crystals. M.P., 86.0°C.

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Example 8**30 Preparation of Compound No. 3 (Procedure B):-**

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A mixture of 1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (2.0 g, 8.2 mmol), 2-chloropyridine (4.0 g, 35 mmol), flaked 95 % sodium hydroxide (1 g, 24 mmol) and tetra-*n*-butyl-ammonium bromide (0.13 g) was stirred at an inner temperature of 85 to 90°C for 6 hours. After allowed to cool, toluene (10 g) was added thereto, and the resultant mixture was washed with water and extracted with 35 % hydrochloric acid (5 g) twice. The hydrochloric acid layer was washed with toluene (10 g). A 10 % aqueous sodium hydroxide solution was added thereto to make the mixture sufficiently basic. The basic mixture was further extracted with toluene (10 g) twice, and the toluene layer was washed with a 10 % aqueous sodium hydroxide solution and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution in order and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent, the residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to give 2-[1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]pyridine (1.87 g) as white crystals.

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Example 9**Preparation of Compound No. 3 (Procedure B):-**

To a mixture of sodium hydride (0.61 g, 15 mmol; 60 % in oil) and 2-chloropyridine (1 g, 9 mmol), there was dropwise added a mixture of 1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (3.0 g, 12 mmol) and 2-chloropyridine (5 g, 44 mmol) with stirring at an inner temperature of 0 to 5°C. Tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (0.2 g) was added to the resultant mixture, and stirring was continued at room temperature for 40 minutes and at an inner temperature of 85 to 90°C for 6 hours. After allowed to cool, toluene (10 g) was added thereto, and the resultant mixture was washed with water and extracted with 35 % hydrochloric acid (7.5 g) twice. To the hydrochloric acid layer, a 10 % aqueous sodium hydroxide solution was added to make basic, followed by extraction with toluene (10 g) twice. The toluene extract was washed with a 10 % aqueous hydroxide solution and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution in order and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave 2-[1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-ethoxy]pyridine (3.51 g) as pale brown crystals.

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Example 10**Preparation of Compound No. 56:-**

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Excess of gaseous hydrogen chloride was gradually introduced into a solution of 2-[2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-ethoxy]pyridine (1.54 mg, 5.0 mmol) in toluene (50 ml) with stirring. The produced white precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with toluene several times and dried to give 2-[2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethoxy]pyridinium hydrochloride (1.65 g) as white crystals. M.P., 139.1°C.

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Reference Example 1**Preparation of (S)-(+)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol:-**

A solution of 4-phenoxyphenol (2.14 g, 11.5 mmol) in toluene (7 ml) was poured into an aqueous solution

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(3 ml) of sodium hydroxide (0.92 g, 23.0 mmol), and (S)-(-)-propylene oxide (1.0 g, 17.24 mmol; a reagent manufactured by Aldrich; $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -7.2^\circ$ (CHCl_3 , $c = 1$)) was added thereto while stirring. To the resultant mixture, tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (185 mg) was added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours, followed by addition of (S)-(-)-propylene oxide (1 g). After stirring at room temperature for 6 hours, the reaction mixture was vigorously stirred with addition of water (20 ml) and toluene (20 ml). The toluene layer was separated and washed with a 20 % aqueous sodium hydroxide solution and an aqueous sodium chloride solution in order and dried over magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave crude (S)-(+)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (2.35 g), which was further purified by silica gel column chromatography to give (S)-(+)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethanol (1.97 g). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +14.0^\circ$ (CHCl_3 , $c = 1$), ee.: 72.9 %.

Reference Example 2

Preparation of (S)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)-ethyl acetate through (R)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl methanesulfonate:-

A mixture of anhydrous sodium acetate (82 mg, 1.0 mmol), (R)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl methane-sulfonate (250 mg, 0.78 mmol; ee.: 99.4 %) and dimethylformamide (5 ml) was stirred at an inner temperature of 100 to 110°C for 5 hours. After allowed to cool, ice-water was added thereto, and the reaction mixture was extracted with toluene three times. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was removed, and the residue was purified by thin layer chromatography using silica gel to give (S)-(-)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl acetate (158 mg). $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -30.6^\circ$ (CHCl_3 , $c = 1$), ee.: 88.8 %.

Reference Example 3

Preparation of 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)anisole:-

Sodium hydride (7.56 g, 0.189 mol; 60 % in oil) was washed with *n*-hexane to eliminate the oil, and *N,N*-dimethylformamide (100 ml) was added thereto to make a suspension. To the thus prepared suspension, 4-methoxy-phenol (25.84 g, 0.208 mol) was gradually added with stirring, and stirring was continued until the generation of hydrogen gas ceased. 1,3,5-Trifluorobenzene (30.00 g, 0.227 mol) and cuprous chloride (0.50 g) were added thereto. The resultant mixture was heated under reflux for 8 hours with stirring. After allowed to cool, the reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with toluene. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. The solvent was removed, and the residual oil was distilled under reduced pressure to give 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)anisole (25.42 g). B.P.: 98.5°C/0.2 mmHg.

Reference Example 4

Preparation of 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenol:-

A mixture of 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)anisole (22.0 g, 0.093 mol), acetic acid (200 ml) and a 47 % aqueous hydrogen bromide solution (200 ml) was heated with stirring under reflux for 8 hours. After allowed to cool, the reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with a mixture of ether and *n*-hexane (1 : 2). The organic layer was washed with water three times and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenol (20.27 g).

Reference Example 5

Preparation of 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol:-

4-(3,5-Difluorophenoxy)phenol (9.0 g, 40.5 mmol) was added to an ethanolic solution of sodium ethoxide prepared from ethanol (40 ml) and sodium (939 mg, 40.9 mmol). To the resultant solution, 2-chloroethanol (3.26 g, 40.5 mmol) was dropwise added with stirring under reflux. After completion of the addition, the resultant mixture was stirred under reflux for 4 hours. After allowed to cool, ethanol was removed, and the residual oil was dissolved in toluene. The toluene layer was washed with water once, a 20 % aqueous potassium hydroxide solution two times and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution once in order and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (6.50 g).

Reference Example 6

Preparation of 1-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol:-

4-(3,5-Difluorophenoxy)phenol (3.0 g, 13.5 mmol) was added to an ethanolic solution of sodium ethoxide prepared from ethanol (15 ml) and sodium (313 mg, 13.6 mmol). To the resultant solution, 1-chloro-2-propanol (1.80 g, 16.9 mmol) was dropwise added with stirring under reflux. After completion of the addition, the resultant mixture was stirred under reflux for 5 hours. After allowed to cool, ethanol was removed, and the residual oil was dissolved in toluene. The toluene layer was washed with water once, a 20 % aqueous potassium hydroxide solution two times and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution once in order and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave 1-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (2.24 g).

*Reference Example 7**Preparation of 2-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol:-*

A mixture of 4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenol (11.1 g, 50.0 mmol), ethyl 2-bromopropionate (9.98 g, 55.0 mmol), potassium carbonate (7.25 g, 52.5 mmol) and N,N-dimethylformamide (50 ml) was stirred at an inner temperature of 70 to 80°C for 3 hours. After allowed to cool, the reaction mixture was poured into ice-water and extracted with toluene. The toluene layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed to give ethyl 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]propionate (15.6 g).

The thus obtained ethyl 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]propionate (15.6 g) was dissolved in diethyl ether (10 ml). The resulting solution was dropwise added to a suspension of lithium aluminum hydride (1.38 g, 36.3 mmol) in diethyl ether (70 ml) with stirring at an inner temperature of -20 to -10°C. After completion of the addition, stirring was continued for 1 hour while keeping the inner temperature at 0 to 5°C. The reaction mixture was poured into a mixture of ice and hydrochloric acid and extracted with ether. The ether layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed to give 2-methyl-2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (12.6 g).

*Reference Example 8**Preparation of 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethyl bromide:-*

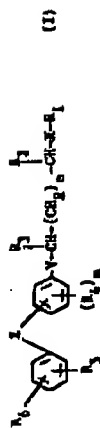
To a mixture of 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (1.00 g, 3.76 mmol) and n-hexane (50 ml), phosphorus tribromide (0.71 g, 2.63 mmol) was gradually added with stirring under ice-cooling. After completion of the addition, the temperature was elevated to room temperature and stirring was continued at the same temperature for 30 minutes, followed by stirring under reflux for 1 hour. After allowed to cool, the upper n-hexane layer was collected by decantation, and the n-hexane layer was washed with water two times, an aqueous sodium carbonate solution three times and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution once in order and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate. Removal of the solvent gave 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethyl bromide (915 mg).

*Reference Example 9**Preparation of 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethyl p-toluenesulfonate:-*

To a solution of 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethanol (2.66 g, 10.0 mmol) in pyridine (2.8 g), p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (1.91 g, 10.0 mmol) was gradually added with stirring while cooling at -20°C, and the resultant mixture was allowed to stand in a refrigerator overnight. Diethyl ether was added to the reaction mixture, which was washed with dilute hydrochloric acid until the aqueous layer became acidic, followed by washing with an aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution and a saturated aqueous sodium chloride solution. The obtained ether layer was dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate, and the solvent was removed to give 2-[4-(3,5-difluorophenoxy)phenoxy]ethyl p-toluenesulfonate (3.90 g).








In the same manner as above, there were prepared the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) and the intermediates thereto. Some typical examples of them are shown in Tables 1 to 3.

Table I



Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	o	Physical constants
1		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 91.2°C
2		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 81.6°C
3		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{20.5}$ 1.5823, M.P. 49.7°C
4		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{21.0}$ 1.5775
5		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{19.0}$ 1.5983
6		CH ₃	H	H	3-7	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{20.5}$ 1.5721
7		H	H	H	3-CH ₃	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{20.5}$ 1.5899

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	Physical constants
8		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 76.0°C
9		H	H	H	4-P	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 53.4°C
10		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	70.5 n _D 1.6133
11		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	70.5 n _D 1.6183
12		CH ₃	H	H	3-P	3-P	4-	0	0	0	0	59.0 n _D 1.5602
13		CH ₃	3-CH ₃ ¹⁾	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	1	20.5 n _D 1.5791
14		H	CH ₃	H	3-OCH ₃	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0








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Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	Position of R ₆	Y	Z	W	Physical constant
15		CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	CH ₃	21.0 1.5818
16		H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	CH ₃	22.0 1.5864
17		CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	CH ₃	21.3 1.3791
18		H	CH ₃	H	H	4-	0	0	CH ₃	22.0 1.3791
19										$[\alpha]_D^{25} = +39.4^\circ$ (CHCl ₃ , c = 0.34)
20										$[\alpha]_D^{25} = -33.8^\circ$ (CHCl ₃ , c = 0.34)
21		H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 58.6°C


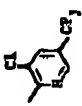





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(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	Y	Z	n	Physical constant
22		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 121.9°C
23		H	H	H	H	3-Cl	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 94.3°C
24		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 90.3°C
25		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 54.5°C
26		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 112.7°C
27		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 63-65°C
28		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 77-79°C

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	m	n	Physical constant
19		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	20.3 1.5031
20		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	21.5 1.5491
21		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 91.8°C
22		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	21.0 1.5125
23		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	21.0 1.5125
24		CH ₃	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	21.5 1.5006
25		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 110.2°C

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	a	n	Physical constant
36		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 81.6°C
37		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5837
38		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5844
39		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5811
40		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5886
41		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	M.P. 91.9°C
42		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.6030


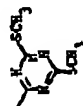
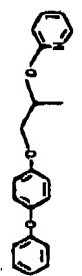




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Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	Physical constant
43		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5997
44		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 91.3°C
45		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 116.1°C
46		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 65.9°C
47		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5850
48		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.6031
49		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 80.6°C
50		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.6132

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	a	Physical constant	
51		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	$n_D^{21.0}$ 1.6138	
52		H	H	H	H	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	M.P. 91.2°C	
53		H	H	H	H	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	$n_D^{23.5}$ 1.6117	
54		H	H	H	H	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	$n_D^{22.5}$ 1.6110	
55	 .HCl (Hydrochloride of Compound No. 1)													M.P. 138.1°C
56		H	H	H	H	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	M.P. 55.4°C	
57		H	CH ₃	H	3-CH ₃	H	4-	H	O	O	0	0	$n_D^{23.0}$ 1.5349	

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	n	d ₄ ²⁰	Physical constant
58		CH ₃	H	H	3-OCH ₃	H	4-	0	0	0 21.5 1.3794
59		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0 21.0 1.6114
60										viscous liquid
61		H	H	H	3-F	H	4-	0	0	0 M.P. 79.3°C
62		H	H	H	3-F	H	4-	0	0	0 M.P. 80.6°C
63		H	H	H	3-F	H	4-	0	0	0 M.P. 91.8°C
64		CH ₃	H	H	3-F	H	4-	0	0	0 20.5 1.5560

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₅	X	Y	Z	n	Physical constant
65		H	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 91.3°C
66		H	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 71.3°C
67		CH ₃	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 1.3720
68		H	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 71.3°C
69		CH ₃	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 1.3599
70		H	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 66.3°C
71		H	H	H	H	3-7	4-	0	0	0	0	M.P. 66.0°C








(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	Position of R ₆	R ₆	1	2	n	Physical constants
72		CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	H	0	0	0	n_D^{20} 1.5678
73		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	3-7	0	0	0	$n_D^{25.0}$ 1.5568
74		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	H	0	0	0	$n_D^{25.0}$ 1.5606
75		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	H	0	0	0	$n_D^{23.0}$ 1.5703
76		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	5-7	0	0	0	$n_D^{26.0}$ 1.5584
77		H	CH ₃	H	H	4-	H	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.5}$ 1.5804
78		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	H	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.5}$ 1.5737
79		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	4-	5-7	0	0	0	M.P. 75.0°C

(continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	m	Physical constant
80		H	H	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.5933
81		H	H	H	H	3-7	H	4-	H	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.6103
82		H	H	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.5934
83		H	H	H	H	3-7	H	4-	H	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.6062
84		H	H	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.5938
85		H	H	H	H	3-7	H	4-	H	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.6035
86		H	CH ₃	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.5659
87		H	CH ₃	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	n_D^{20} 1.5864








(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	A	M	n	Physical constant
88		H	CH ₃	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	0	23.0 n _D 1.5558
89		H	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	O	0	M.P. 76.5°C
90		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	O	0	23.5 n _D 1.5605
91		H	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	O	0	21.0 n _D 1.5539
92		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	O	0	24.5 n _D 1.5735
93		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	S	O	O	O	0	24.5 n _D 1.5659
94		CH ₃	H	H	3-7	3-7	4-	S	O	O	O	0	24.5 n _D 1.5638

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






Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	Y	Z	n	Physical constant
95		CH ₃	H	H	3-P	3-P	4-	0	0	0	24.3 1.5850
96		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	24.3 1.5931
97		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	24.3 1.5898
98		H	H	H	3-P	H	4-	0	0	0	24.2 69.3°C
99		H	H	H	3-P	3-P	4-	0	0	0	M.P. 87.6°C
100		H	CH ₃	H	3-P	H	4-	0	0	0	23.0 1.5160
101		H	CH ₃	H	3-P	3-P	4-	0	0	0	23.0 1.5468

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	a	Physical constant
102		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{25.0}$ 1.5601
103		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{25.0}$ 1.5486
104		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{26.0}$ 1.5974
105		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.0}$ 1.5961
106		H	CH ₃	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.0}$ 1.5971
107		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.0}$ 1.5980
108		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	$n_D^{24.0}$ 1.5960

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	n	a	Physical constant
109		CH ₃	H	H	3-7	H	4-	S	O	O	0	0	$\alpha_D^{24.0}$ 1.5979
110		CH ₃	H	3-7 ^{a)}	H	H	4-	O	O	O	1	0	
111		Cl	H	H	H	H	4-	B	O	O	0	0	M.P. 64.0°C
112		H	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	0	0	$\alpha_D^{24.0}$ 1.5971
113		H	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	0	0	M.P. 36.9°C
114		H	H	H	H	H	4-	O	O	O	0	0	M.P. 70.9°C

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	R ₆	Position of R ₆	X	Y	Z	=	n	Physical constant
115	a mixture of												
		H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	22.3 1.5037 n _D
	and 	H	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	
116		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	22.5 1.5723 n _D
117		CH ₃	H	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	22.5 1.5705 n _D
118		H	H	H	H	H	4-	CH ₃	0	0	0	0	24.5 1.5851 n _D
119		H	Cl	H	H	H	4-	0	0	0	0	0	
120		H	H	H	H	H	3-	0	0	0	0	0	26.5 1.5915 n _D

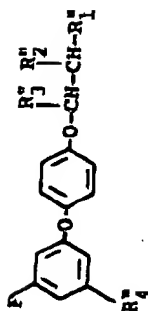
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Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	Position of R ₄	X	Y	Z	n	a	Physical constant
121		H	H	H	4-7	H	3-	0	0	0	23.5 1.5768
122		H	H	H	3-7	H	3-	0	0	0	23.5 1.5769
123		H	H	H	3-7	H	3-	0	0	0	23.0 1.5807
124		H	H	H	4-CH ₃	H	3-	0	0	0	22.5 1.5873
125		H	H	H	4-CH ₃	H	3-	0	0	0	23.0 1.5930
126		H	H	H	1-CH ₃	H	3-	0	0	0	24.5 1.5945
127		H	H	H	4-7	H	3-	0	0	0	24.5 1.5980
128		H	H	H	3-7	H	3-	0	0	0	23.5 1.5934

(Continued)

Compound No.	R ₁	R ₂	R ₃	R ₄	R ₅	Position of R ₆	R ₆	R ₇	R ₈	R ₉	Physical constants
129		H	H	H	H	3-	H	2-7	H	0	$n_D^{25} 1.3919$
130		CH ₃	H	H	H	3-	H	H	H	0	$n_D^{25} 1.3913$
131								(R/S = 94.5/5.5)			$n_D^{25} -47.0^\circ$ (CHCl ₃ , c = 0.20)
132								(R/S = 28.9/71.1)			$n_D^{25} -4.4^\circ$ (CHCl ₃ , c = 0.04)

Table 2



Compound No.	R ₁ ^a	R ₂ ^a	R ₃ ^a	R ₄ ^a	Physical constant
133					n _D ^{29.5} 1.5364
134					n _D ^{29.5} 1.5538
135	OH	H	H	P	n _D ^{29.0} 1.5476
136	OH	H	CH ₃	P	n _D ^{28.0} 1.5331
137	OH	CH ₃	H	P	n _D ^{29.5} 1.5359
138	Br	H	H	P	n _D ^{25.5} 1.5589
139	Br	H	CH ₃	P	n _D ^{28.5} 1.5459
140	Br	CH ₃	H	P	n _D ^{26.5} 1.5473

(Continued)

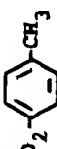
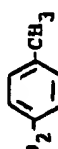

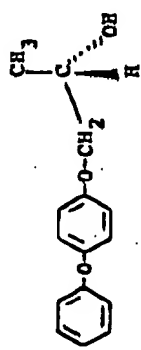
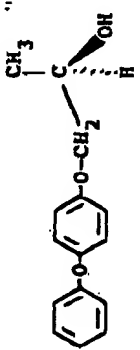
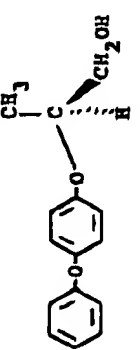
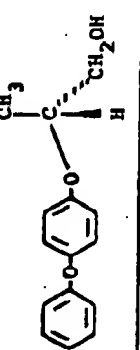
Compound No.	R ₁ ⁿ	R ₂ ⁿ	R ₃ ⁿ	R ₄ ⁿ	Physical constant
141		H	H	F	n _D ^{27.0} 1.5621
142		H	CH ₃	F	n _D ^{27.5} 1.5490
143		CH ₃	H	F	n _D ^{29.0} 1.5508
144	OSO ₂ CH ₃	H	H	F	n _D ^{27.5} 1.4846
145	OSO ₂ CH ₃	H	CH ₃	F	n _D ^{28.0} 1.4715
146	OSO ₂ CH ₃	CH ₃	H	F	n _D ^{26.5} 1.4732
147	OH	H	H	H	n _D ^{21.5} 1.4629
148	OH	H	CH ₃	H	M.P. 40-44°C
149	OH	CH ₃	H	H	M.P. 44.9°C
150	Br	H	H	H	n _D ^{21.5} 1.5757
151	Br	H	CH ₃	H	n _D ^{21.5} 1.5649
152	Br	CH ₃	H	H	n _D ^{21.5} 1.5632

Table 3

Compound No.	Structure	Physical constant
153	 <p>(S)-isomer</p>	$[\alpha]_D^{23} = +18.5^\circ$ $(CHCl_3, c = 1)$ $ee.: 96.3 \%$
154	 <p>(R)-isomer</p>	$[\alpha]_D^{23} = -19.1^\circ$ $(CHCl_3, c = 1)$ $ee.: 99.4 \%$
155	 <p>(S)-isomer</p>	$[\alpha]_D^{23} = +23.1^\circ$ $(CHCl_3, c = 0.39)$ $ee.: 42.2 \%$
156	 <p>(R)-isomer</p>	$[\alpha]_D^{23} = +48.7^\circ$ $(CHCl_3, c = 0.38)$ $ee.: 89.7 \%$

On the application of the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) as insecticidal agents, they may be used as such or, preferably, in the form of an appropriate composition such as emulsifiable concentrate, dusts, granules, wettable powders and fine granules. The content of the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound (I) in such composition is usually from about 0.1 to 99.9 % by weight, preferably from about 2.0 to 80.0 % by weight.

The composition can be formulated in a per se conventional manner by mixing at least one of the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) with an appropriate solid or liquid carrier(s) or diluent(s). An appropriate adjuvant(s) (e.g. surfactants, adherents, dispersants, stabilizers) may be admixed therein for improving the dispersibility and other properties of the active ingredient on use.

Examples of the solid carriers or diluents are clays (e.g. kaolin, bentonite, fuller's earth, pyrophyllite, sericite), talcs, other inorganic materials (e.g. hydrated silica, pumice, diatomaceous earth, sulfur powder, active carbon) in fine powders or powdery form.

Examples of the liquid carriers or diluents are alcohols (e.g. methanol, ethanol), ketones (e.g. acetone, methyl ethyl ketone), others (e.g. diethyl ether, dioxane, cellosolve, tetrahydrofuran), aromatic hydrocarbons (e.g. benzene, toluene, xylene, methylnaphthalene), aliphatic hydrocarbons (e.g. gasoline, kerosene, lamp oil), esters, nitriles, acid amides (e.g. dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide), halogenated hydrocarbons (e.g. dichloroethane, trichloroethylene, carbon tetrachloride), etc.

Examples of the surfactants are alkylsulfates, alkylsulfonates, alkylarylsulfonates, polyethylene glycol ethers, polyhydric alcohol esters, etc. Examples of the adherents and dispersants may include casein, gelatin, starch powder, CMC (carboxymethyl cellulose), gum arabic, alginic acid, ligninsulfonate, bentonite, molasses, polyvinyl alcohol, pine oil and agar. As the stabilizers, there may be used PAP (isopropyl acid phosphates mixture), TCP (tricresyl phosphate), tolu oil, epoxidized oil, various surfactants, various fatty acids and their esters, etc.

In addition, the said composition may contain insecticides, insect growth inhibitors, acaricides, nematocides, fungicides, herbicides, plant growth regulators, fertilizers, soil improvers, etc. Particularly when employed in conjunction with conventional insecticides, a broad spectrum of activity or a more immediate effect on very heterogeneous populations is provided. Examples of the insecticides include organic phosphorus compounds (e.g. fenitrothion (O,O-dimethyl-O-(3-methyl-4-nitrophenyl)phosphorothioate), malathion (S-[1,2-bis(ethoxycarbonyl)ethyl] O,O-dimethylphosphorothioate), dimethoate (O,O-dimethyl-S-(N-methylcarbamoylmethyl)phosphorodithioate), salithion (2-methoxy-4H-1,3,2-benzodioxaphosphorin-2-sulfide), diazinon (O,O-diethyl-O-(2-isopropyl-6-methyl-4-pyrimidinyl)phosphorothioate), dipterex (2,2,2-trichloro-1-hydroxyethyl-O,O-dimethylphosphonate), dichlorvos (O-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-O,O-dimethylphosphate), etc.), carbamate compounds (e.g. MPMC (3,4-dimethylphenyl N-methylcarbamate), MTMC (m-tolyl N-methylcarbamate), BPMC (2-sec-butylphenyl N-methylcarbamate), carbaryl (1-naphthyl N-methylcarbamate), etc.) and pyrethroid compounds (e.g. resmethrin (5-benzyl-3-furylmethyl-d,l-cis, trans-chrysanthemate), permethrin (3-phenoxybenzyl-d,l-cis, trans-3-(2,2-dichlorovinyl)-2,2-dimethylcyclopropanecarboxylate), fenvalerate (α -cyano-m-phenoxybenzyl α -isopropyl-p-chlorophenylacetate), etc.).

The nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I) of the invention formulated into an appropriate composition may be applied in a suitable application method such as spraying, smoking, soil treatment, soil surface treatment or in combination with animal feed.

Some practical embodiments of the composition for the control of insects according to the invention are illustratively shown in the following Formulation Examples wherein % and part(s) are by weight.

45 Formulation Example 1

Each of Compound Nos. 1 to 132 (20 parts), an emulsifier (a mixture of polyoxyethylene-styrenated phenyl ether, polyoxyethylene-styrenated phenyl ether polymer and an alkylarylsulfonate (20 parts) and xylene (60 parts) are mixed well to make an emulsifiable concentrate.

50 Formulation Example 2

Each of Compound Nos. 1 to 132 (20 parts) and an emulsifier (sodium laurylsulfate) (5 parts) are mixed well, and diatomaceous earth (300 mesh) (75 parts) is added thereto, and the resultant mixture is mixed well in a pulverizer to make a wettable powder.

55 Formulation Example 3

Each of Compound Nos. 1, 3, 12 or 46 (3 parts) is dissolved in acetone (20 parts), talc (300 mesh) (97 parts) is added thereto, and the resultant mixture is mixed well in a pulverizer. Then, acetone is eliminated by evaporation to give a dust.

60 Formulation Example 4

Each of Compound Nos. 1 or 1 (5 parts), a dispersant (calcium ligninsulfonate) (2 parts) and clay (93 parts) are mixed well in a pulverizer. To the resultant mixture, water is added in an amount of 10 %, and the resulting mixture is kneaded well and granulated by the aid of a granulator, followed by drying to give granules.

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Formulation Example 5

Compound No. 3 (2 parts), a dispersant (calcium ligninsulfonate) (2 parts) and clay (96 parts) are mixed well in a pulverizer. Water is added to the resultant mixture in an amount of 10 %. The resulting mixture is mixed well and granulated by the aid of a granulator, followed by air-drying to give fine granules.

E

Formulation Example 6

Each of Compound Nos. 1 to 132 (10 parts), resmethrin ((20 parts), an emulsifier (a mixture of polyoxyethylene-styrenated phenyl ether, polyoxyethylene-styrenated phenyl ether polymer and an alkylaryl/sulfonate) (20 parts) and xylene (50 parts) are mixed well to make an emulsifiable concentrate.

10

Formulation Example 7

Each of Compound Nos. 1 to 132 (10 parts), fenitrothion (20 parts) and an emulsifier (sodium laurylsulfate) (5 parts) are mixed well, and diatomaceous earth (300 mesh) (65 parts) is added thereto, and the resultant mixture is mixed well in a pulverizer to make a wettable powder.

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The following Examples show some typical test data indicating the excellent insect control activity of the nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compounds (I). The compounds used for comparison are as follows:

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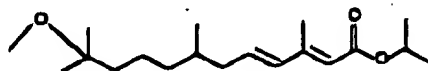
Compound
No.

Chemical structure

Remarks

20

A



Known as
"methoprene";
U.S. patents
3,904,662 &
3,912,815

25

25

B

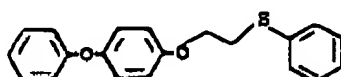


Compound disclosed
in Japanese Pat.
Publn. (unexamined)
No. 157522/1975

30

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C

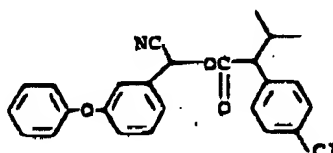


Compound disclosed
in DT-OS 2,616,755

35

35

D



Known as
"fenvalerate"

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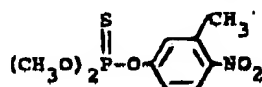
Compound
No.

Chemical structure

Remarks

50

E



Known as
"fenitrothion"

37

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Test Example 1

Pupae of wax moth (*Galleria mellonella*) were collected within 20 hours from the pupation. According to the Schneiderman's method (J. Insect Physiol., 11, 1641 (1965)), a puncture of about 1 mm² was made in the right side of the thoracic dorsum of each pupa, and the wound was sealed with a designed amount of the test compound dissolved in a mixture of paraffin wax and peanut oil. The medicated pupae were kept at 28°C in a pyrostat. The pupal cuticle at the medicated part was peeled off before emergence, and observation was made to examine the formation of the pupal cuticle, from which the average rate of reaction to the test compound was determined, and the dose of the test compound for 50 % inhibition of the metamorphosis (ID₅₀) was calculated. The results are shown in Table 4.

10

10

TABLE 4

	Test compound No.	ID ₅₀ (μg/pupa)	
15	1	<0.001	15
	A	2.2	
20	B	>1	20
	C	>1	

Test Example 2

An emulsifiable concentrate prepared according to Formulation Example 1 was diluted with water to make a 400 fold dilution. The dilution (0.7 ml) was added to 100 ml of distilled water. Last instar larvae of common mosquito (*Culex pipiens pallens*) were released therein and reared for 7 days until their emergence. The rate of emergence was observed (two replications). The results are shown in Table 5.

30

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TABLE 5

	Test compound No.	Concentration (ppm)	Rate of emergence (%)	
35	1	3.5	0	35
	2	3.5	0	
	3	3.5	0	
	4	3.5	0	
40	5	3.5	0	40
	6	3.5	0	
	7	3.5	0	
	8	3.5	0	
	9	3.5	0	
45	10	3.5	0	45
	11	3.5	0	
	12	3.5	0	
	13	3.5	0	
	14	3.5	0	
50	15	3.5	0	50
	16	3.5	0	
	17	3.5	0	
	18	3.5	0	
	19	3.5	0	
55	20	3.5	0	55
	21	3.5	0	
	22	3.5	0	
	23	3.5	0	
	24	3.5	0	
60	25	3.5	0	60
	26	3.5	0	
	27	3.5	0	
	28	3.5	0	
	29	3.5	0	
65	30	3.5	0	65

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TABLE 5 (continued)

	<i>Test compound No.</i>	<i>Concentration (ppm)</i>	<i>Rate of emergence (%)</i>	
5	31	3.5	0	5
	32	3.5	0	
	33	3.5	0	
	34	3.5	0	
	35	3.5	0	
10	36	3.5	0	10
	37	3.5	0	
	38	3.5	0	
	39	3.5	0	
	40	3.5	0	
15	41	3.5	0	15
	42	3.5	0	
	43	3.5	0	
	44	3.5	0	
	45	3.5	0	
20	46	3.5	0	20
	47	3.5	0	
	48	3.5	0	
	49	3.5	0	
	50	3.5	0	
25	51	3.5	0	25
	52	3.5	0	
	53	3.5	0	
	54	3.5	0	
	55	3.5	0	
30	56	3.5	0	30
	57	3.5	0	
	58	3.5	0	
	59	3.5	0	
	60	3.5	0	
35	61	3.5	0	35
	62	3.5	0	
	63	3.5	0	
	64	3.5	0	
	65	3.5	0	
40	66	3.5	0	40
	67	3.5	0	
	68	3.5	0	
	69	3.5	0	
	70	3.5	0	
45	71	3.5	0	45
	72	3.5	0	
	73	3.5	0	
	74	3.5	0	
	75	3.5	0	
50	76	3.5	0	50
	77	3.5	0	
	78	3.5	0	
	79	3.5	0	
	80	3.5	0	
55	81	3.5	0	55
	82	3.5	0	
	83	3.5	0	
	84	3.5	0	
	85	3.5	0	
60	86	3.5	0	60
	87	3.5	0	
	88	3.5	0	
	89	3.5	0	
	90	3.5	0	
65	91	3.5	0	65

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TABLE 5 (continued)

	Test compound No.	Concentration (ppm)	Rate of emergence (%)	
5	92	3.5	0	5
	93	3.5	0	
	94	3.5	0	
	95	3.5	0	
	96	3.5	0	
10	97	3.5	0	10
	98	3.5	0	
	99	3.5	0	
	100	3.5	0	
	101	3.5	0	
15	102	3.5	0	15
	103	3.5	0	
	104	3.5	0	
	105	3.5	0	
	106	3.5	0	
20	107	3.5	0	20
	108	3.5	0	
	109	3.5	0	
	110	3.5	0	
	111	3.5	0	
25	112	3.5	0	25
	113	3.5	0	
	114	3.5	0	
	115	3.5	0	
	116	3.5	0	
30	117	3.5	0	30
	118	3.5	0	
	119	3.5	0	
	120	3.5	0	
	121	3.5	0	
35	122	3.5	0	35
	123	3.5	0	
	124	3.5	0	
	125	3.5	0	
	126	3.5	0	
40	127	3.5	0	40
	128	3.5	0	
	129	3.5	0	
	130	3.5	0	
	131	3.5	0	
45	132	3.5	0	45
	A	3.5	0	
50	Untreated	-	90	50

Test Example 3

An emulsifiable concentrate prepared according to Formulation Example 1 was diluted with water to a designed dilution. The dilution (0.5 ml) was added to 100 ml of distilled water. Twenty last instar larvae of common mosquito (*Culex pipiens pallens*) were released therein and reared for 7 days until their emergence. The 50 % emergence inhibition concentration (IC_{50}) (ppm) was determined (two replications). The results are shown in Table 6 wherein PI_{50} corresponds to $-\log IC_{50}$.

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TABLE 6

	Test Compound No.	PI ₅₀	
5	1	4.3	5
	3	4.2	
	6	4.6	
	19	3.9	
	20	4.4	
10	23	4.4	10
	46	3.8	
	49	5.2	
	89	4.4	
	95	4.2	
15	97	4.7	15
	124	4.1	
	125	4.1	
	A	3.7	
20	B	1.1	20
	C	1.8	

25 *Test Example 4* 25

Powdered animal feed (2 g) was thoroughly mixed with bran (14 g). An emulsifiable concentrate prepared according to Formulation Example 1 was diluted with water to a designed concentration and the dilution (28 ml) was added to the above mixture. The resultant mixture was stirred well to make an artificial culture.

30 Thirty larvae of housefly (*Musca domestica*) were reared therein until their pupation. The obtained pupae were placed into a plastic cup, and the rate of emergence was determined. According to the following equation, the emergence inhibition (%) was calculated: 30

$$35 \quad \text{Emergence inhibition (\%)} = \left(1 - \frac{\text{Rate of emergence in treated plot}}{\text{Rate of emergence in untreated plot}} \right) \times 100 \quad 35$$

40 The results are shown in Table 7. 40

TABLE 7

	Test Compound No.	Emergence inhibition (%)			
		3 ppm	1 ppm	0.3 ppm	
45	1	100	100	100	45
	2	100	100	52	
50	3	100	100	100	50
	4	100	100	100	
	5	100	100	100	
	6	100	100	100	
55	10	100	89	22	55
	12	100	100	100	
	15	100	100	100	
	19	100	100	100	
	28	78	51	0	
60	31	100	100	100	60
	32	96	66	0	
	33	100	92	34	
	34	79	23	0	
	35	97	97	80	
65	37	100	100	100	65

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TABLE 7 (continued)

5	Test compound No.	Emergence inhibition (%)			5
		3 ppm	1 ppm	0.3 ppm	
	38	97	93	77	
	39	100	100	97	
	46	100	100	100	
10	47	100	100	100	10
	48	97	62	8	
	50	100	95	23	
	51	100	68	2	
	61	100	100	100	
15	62	100	100	89	15
	63	100	100	100	
	64	100	100	100	
	66	100	100	100	
	67	100	100	100	
20	68	100	100	89	20
	69	100	100	100	
	71	100	100	100	
	72	100	100	100	
	73	100	100	96	
25	74	100	100	83	25
	75	100	100	95	
	76	100	100	100	
	77	100	100	100	
	78	100	100	100	
30	79	100	100	95	30
	82	100	89	41	
	83	100	92	57	
	84	100	67	16	
	85	100	100	97	
35	97	100	100	85	35
	98	100	100	96	
	99	100	100	92	
	100	100	100	32	
	101	100	100	40	
40	102	100	100	100	40
	103	100	100	92	
	120	100	79	46	
	122	100	47	7	
	131	100	100	100	
45	132	100	100	100	45
	A	60	13	2	
	B	36	15	0	
50	C	0	0	0	50

Test Example 5

55 Adults of female carmine spider mites (*Tetranychus cinnabarinus*) were permitted to live on four leaves (10 mites per leaf) of kidney bean after 5 days of its plantation in the pots, and the adults were kept at 27°C in a pyrostat. After 6 days, a 400 fold dilution (500 ppm) of the emulsifiable concentrate prepared according to Formulation Example 1 was sprayed over the pots placed on a turn table at a spray volume of 10 ml per pot, and also 2 ml of the dilution was applied to the soil in each pot. Eight days thereafter, the number of the 60 adults were counted and the insect control activity was judged according to the following criteria:

- ++: 0 to 9 adults living on a leaf
 +: 10 to 30 adults living on a leaf
 -: more than 31 adults living on a leaf

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The results are shown in Table 8.

TABLE 8

	Test Compound No.	Judgement	
	46	+	
	80	++	
10	128	+	10
	128	++	
	B	-	
15	C	-	15
	Untreated	-	

20 Test Example 6

Each fifty adults of male and female houseflies (*Musca domestica*) were put in a cage. Separately, powdered feed (2 g), bran (14 g) and water (28 ml) were thoroughly mixed to make an artificial culture and thirty 4-day-old larvae of housefly were reared therein. A 20 % emulsifiable concentrate of Compound No. 3 prepared according to Formulation Example 1 and diluted with water as well as its mixture with Compound D and Compound E was sprayed to each of the cage and the culture at a spray volume of 20 ml. After the spraying, the culture was put in the cage, and the numbers of the adults within the cage were observed with lapse of days and evaluated in terms of "corrected density Index", which was calculated according to the following equation:

$$\text{Corrected density index} = \frac{\text{Number of adult before treatment in untreated plot} \times \text{Number of adult after treatment in treated plot}}{\text{Number of adult after treatment in untreated plot} \times \text{Number of adult before treatment in treated plot}} \times 100$$

40 The results are shown in Table 9.

TABLE 9

	Compound No.	Concentration (ppm)	Corrected density Index					
			1 day	2 days	5 days	16 days	22 days	
50	3	5	98	98	99	3	2	50
	D	10	25	24	23	64	81	
	E	10	30	22	22	71	80	
55	3/D	5/10	34	29	25	4	2	55
	3/E	5/10	33	31	30	2	1	

60 Test Example 7

An emulsifiable concentrate prepared according to Formulation Example 1 was diluted with water to a designed concentration. The resultant dilution (50 ml) was added to feed for domestic fowl (100 g) and thoroughly mixed. The thus obtained mixture was fed to groups of fowls (each group consisting of three animals) at a daily dose of 100 g/fowl for 2 days, whereupon their droppings were collected. Two hundreds

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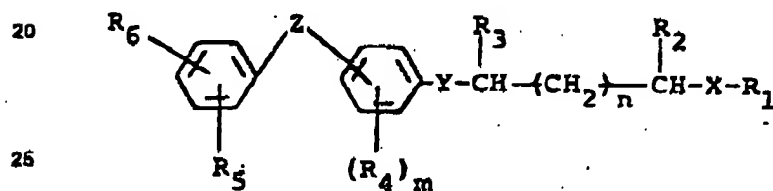
eggs of housefly (*Musca domestica*) were incubated in the droppings until their pupation. The obtained pupae were placed into another container, and the 50 % emergence inhibition concentration (IC_{50}) was examined. The results are shown in Table 10:

TABLE 10

Test Compound No.	IC_{50} (ppm)
1	0.69
3	0.24
A	32

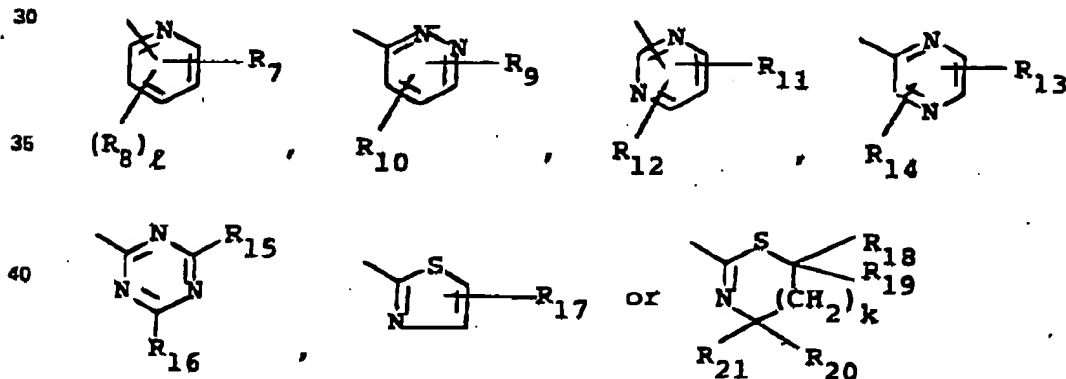
CLAIMS

1. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound of the formula:



wherein.

R_1 is one of the following groups:



(in which $R_7, R_8, R_9, R_{10}, R_{11}, R_{12}, R_{13}, R_{14}, R_{15}, R_{16}$ and R_{17} are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1-C_4 alkyl group, a C_1-C_4 alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4 alkylthio group, a trifluoromethyl group or a nitro group, R_{18}, R_{19}, R_{20} and R_{21} are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group. K is 0 or 1 and l is 0 or an integer of 1 to 3);

R_2 and R_3 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R_4 is a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R_5 and R_6 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom, a C_1-C_4 alkyl group, a C_1-C_4 alkoxy group, a C_1-C_4 haloalkyl group or a C_1-C_4 haloalkoxy group;

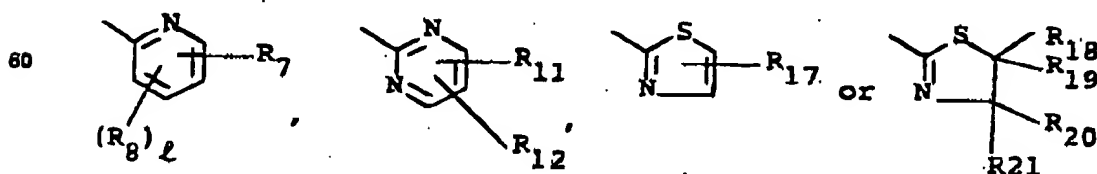
X, Y and Z are each independently an oxygen atom, a sulfur atom or a methylene group;

m is 0 or an integer of 1 to 4; and

n is 0 or an integer of 1 or 2.

2. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1, wherein

R_1 is one of the following groups:



(In which R_7, R_8, R_{11}, R_{12} and R_{17} are each a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom, R_{18}, R_{19}, R_{20} and R_{21} are each a hydrogen atom and ℓ is as defined in Claim 1;

R_2 and R_3 are each independently a hydrogen atom, a halogen atom or a methyl group;

R_5 and R_6 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom;

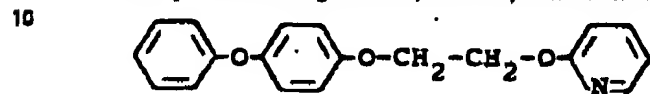
5 X is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom;

Y is an oxygen atom;

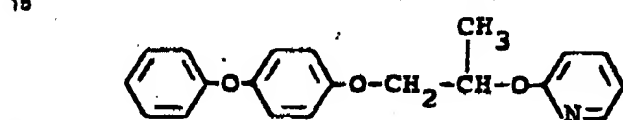
Z is an oxygen atom or a methylene group; and

m and n are each 0.

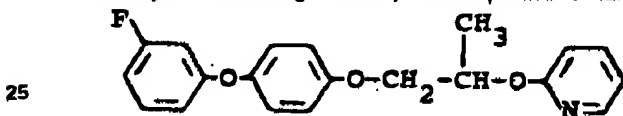
3. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



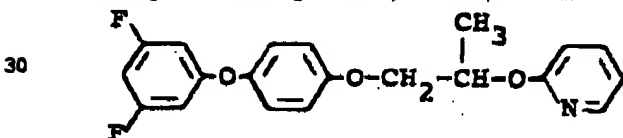
4. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



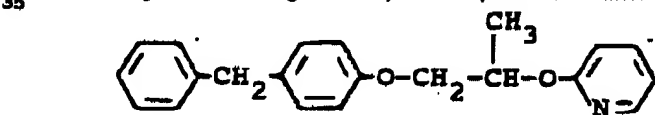
5. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



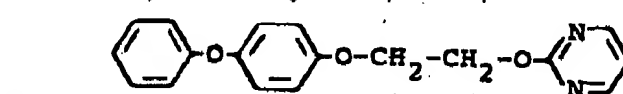
6. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



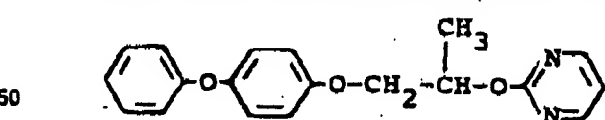
7. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



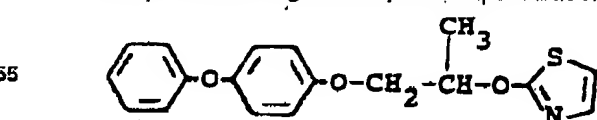
8. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



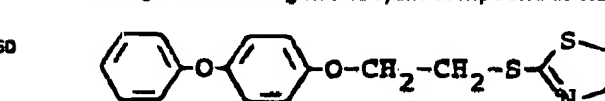
9. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



10. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



11. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



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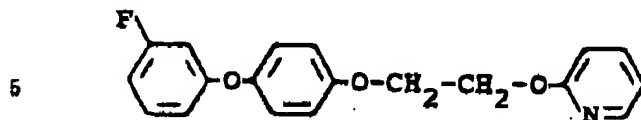
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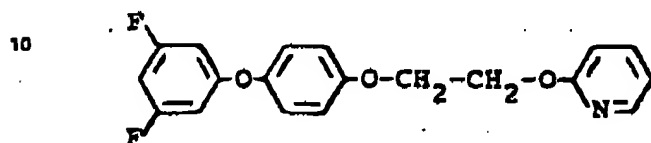
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12. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



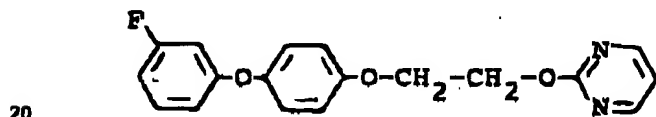
5

13. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



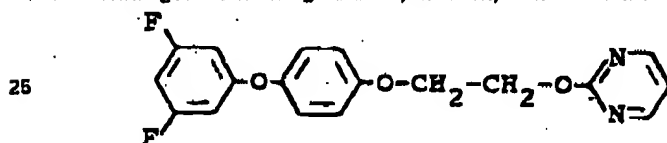
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14. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



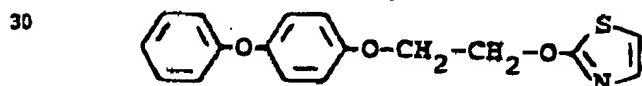
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15. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



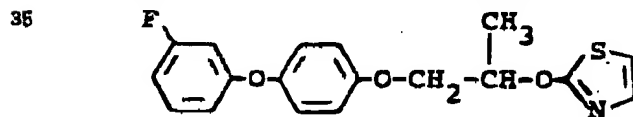
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16. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



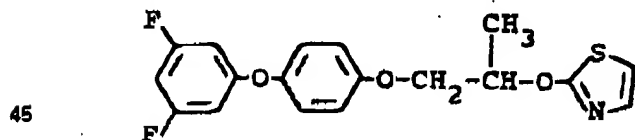
25

17. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



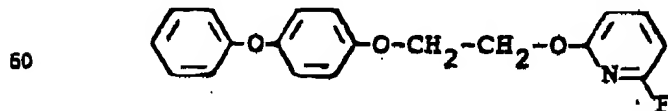
30

18. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



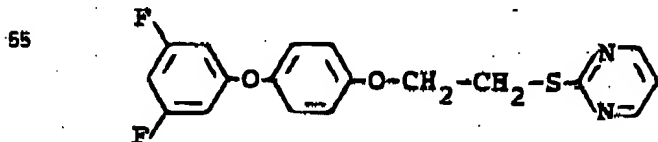
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19. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



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20. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



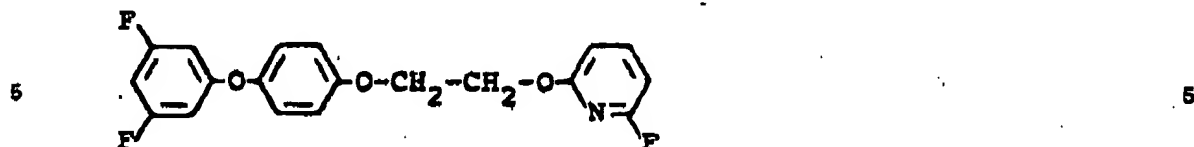
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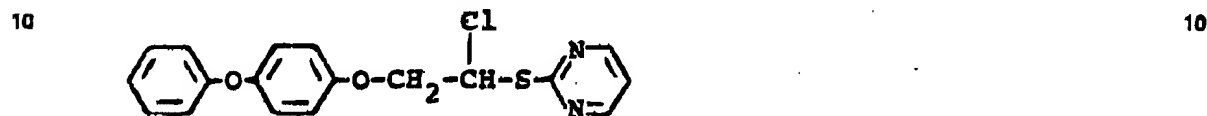
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21. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



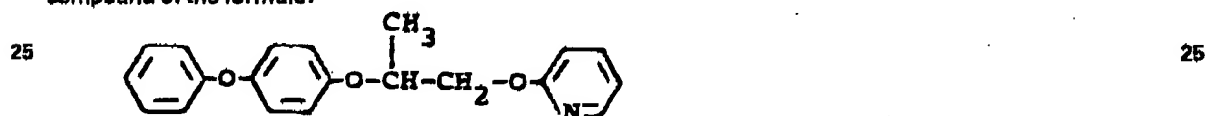
22. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 having the formula:



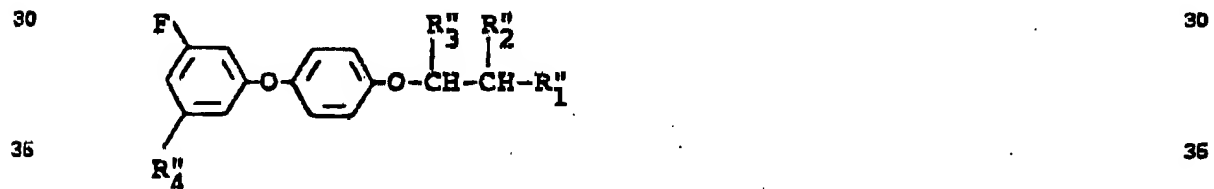
15 23. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in Claim 1 which is an (S)-(-)-isomer of the compound of the formula: 15



24. A nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound as claimed in claim 1, which is an (S)-(-)-isomer of the compound of the formula:

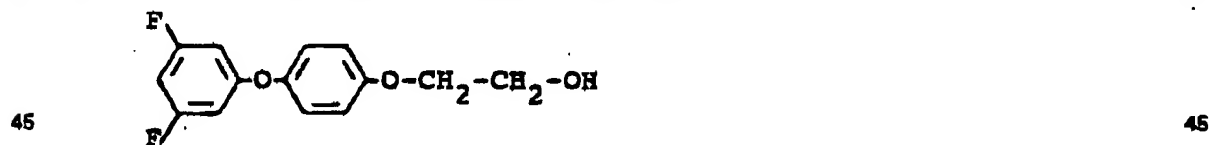


25. A compound of the formula:



wherein R_1'' is a halogen atom, a hydroxyl group, a tosyloxy group or a mesyloxy group, R_2'' and R_3'' are, each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group and R_4'' is a hydrogen atom or a fluorine atom.

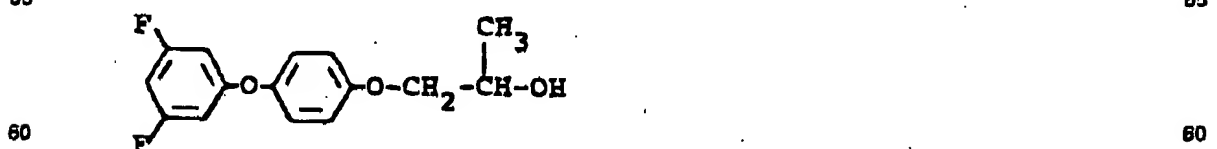
40 26. A compound as claimed in Claim 25, having the formula: 40



27. A compound as claimed in Claim 25, having the formula:



28. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



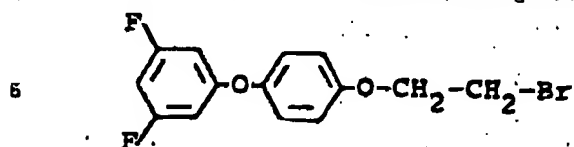
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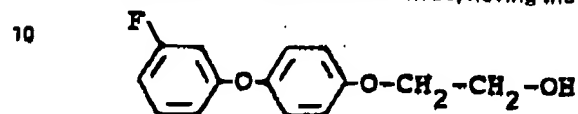
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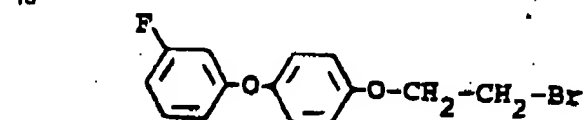
29. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



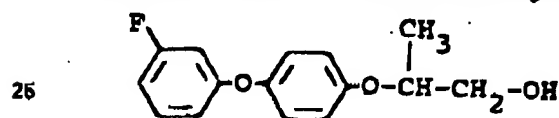
30. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



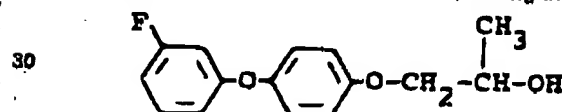
31. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



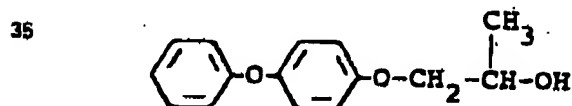
32. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



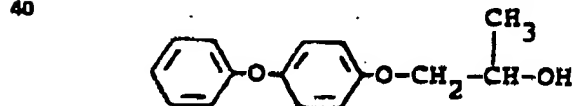
33. A compound as claimed in claim 25, having the formula:



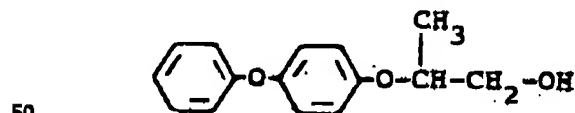
34. A compound as claimed in claim 25, which is an (S)-(+)-isomer of the compound of the formula:



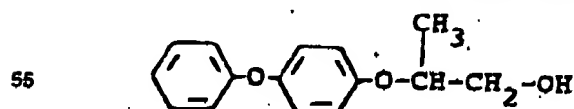
35. A compound as claimed in claim 25, which is an (R)-(-)-isomer of the compound of the formula:



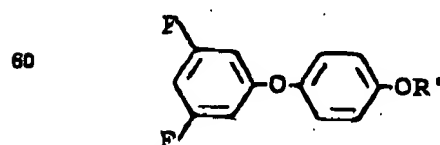
45 36. A compound as claimed in claim 25, which is an (S)-(+)-isomer of the compound of the formula:



50 37. A compound as claimed in claim 25, which is an (R)-(-)-isomer of the compound of the formula:



55 38. A compound of the formula:

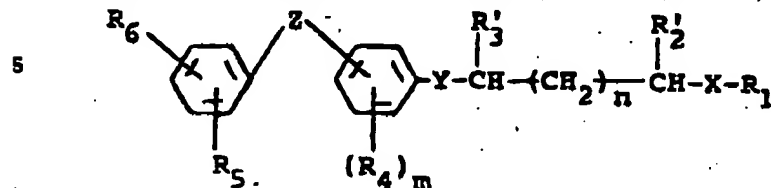


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wherein R' is a hydrogen atom or a methyl group.

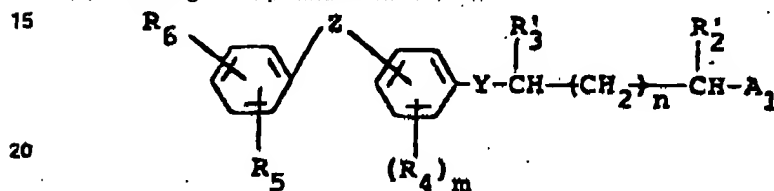
39. A process for preparing a nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound of the formula:



wherein

R_1 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , X , Y , Z , m and n are each as defined in Claim 1 and R'_2 and R'_3 are each independently a hydrogen atom or a methyl group; which comprises

(a) reacting a compound of the formula:

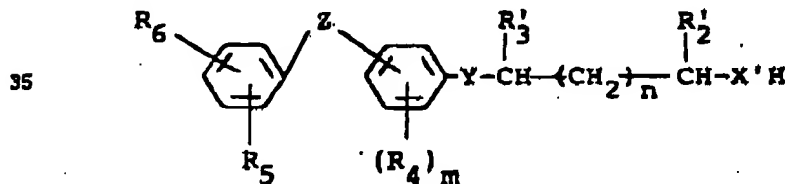


wherein R'_2 , R'_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , Y , Z , m and n are each as defined above and A_1 is a halogen atom, a mesyloxy group or a tosyloxy group, with a compound of the formula:



30 wherein R_1 and X are each as defined above or an alkali metal salt thereof.

(b) reacting a compound of the formula:



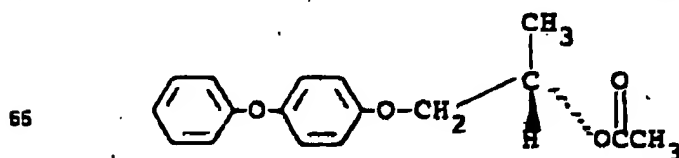
40 wherein R'_2 , R'_3 , R_4 , R_5 , R_6 , Y , Z , m and n are each as defined above and X' is an oxygen atom or a sulfur atom or an alkali metal salt thereof, with a compound of the formula:



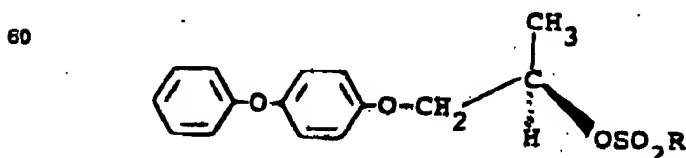
wherein R_1 is as defined above and A_2 is a halogen atom; or

(c) when R_2 or R_3 in the desired nitrogen-containing heterocyclic compound is a halogen atom, reacting the corresponding non-halogenated compound with a halogenating agent.

50 40. A process for preparing an (S)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl acetate of the formula:



which comprises reacting an (R)-1-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenoxy)ethyl sulfonate of the formula:



wherein R is a p-tolyl group or a methyl group, with sodium acetate or potassium acetate.

41. A composition for preventing or exterminating insects which comprises as an active ingredient an insecticidally effective amount of a compound according to claim 1, together with an inert carrier or diluent.

42. A method for preventing or exterminating insects which comprise applying an insecticidally effective amount of the compound according to claim 1 to the insects or to their habitat.

43. The use of a compound as claimed in claim 1 as an insecticidal agent.

44. A compound as claimed in claim 1 as hereinbefore defined in the Specific Examples.

45. A process for preparing a compound as claimed in claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any one of the Examples.

46. A composition as claimed in claim 41 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any one of the Formulation Examples.

47. A method as claimed in claim 42 substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to any one of the Test Examples.

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